

NEWS RELEASE



***OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
San Diego, California***

***United States Attorney
Carol C. Lam***

For Further Information, Contact: Assistant U.S. Attorney Shanna L. Dougherty (619) 557-5482

For Immediate Release

NEWS RELEASE SUMMARY - December 17, 2004

United States Attorney Carol C. Lam announced that United States District Court Judge John A. Houston today sentenced EBONY P. WOODS in federal district court in San Diego to serve a prison term of 100 months for her role in the attempted murder of Sergeant Stephen James Tepatti, a Marine stationed at the U.S. Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton, California. WOODS had previously pled guilty to an Indictment charging her with attempted murder and admitted that she committed the offense for pecuniary gain. Judge Houston also ordered that WOODS serve a three-year term of supervised release following her release from imprisonment. WOODS' co-defendant, ASTRID K. TEPATTI, was sentenced on November 15, 2004, to serve a prison term of 131 months in custody for her role in the attempted murder of her ex-husband, Sergeant Stephen James Tepatti. Judge Houston also ordered that TEPATTI serve a three-year term of supervised release following her release from prison.

On January 4, 2004, defendant ASTRID K. TEPATTI, with the assistance of defendant EBONY P. WOODS, attempted to kill her ex-husband Sgt. Stephen James Tepatti. The two defendants had gone to Sgt. Tepatti's home on the U.S. Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton, California, intending to kill him with a Ruger Blackhawk .30 caliber revolver.

U.S. Attorney Lam stated, "The lengthy prison sentence imposed today is fully justified by the violent nature of the defendant's actions."

DEFENDANT

EBONY P. WOODS
Age: 22

SUMMARY OF CHARGE

Title 18, United States Code, Section 1113 (Attempted Murder)

Maximum Penalty: Twenty years' incarceration and \$250,000 fine.

AGENCIES

Naval Criminal Investigative Service
Federal Bureau of Investigation
California Highway Patrol
Oceanside Police Department
Yuma Police Department